

## SUMMARY

HA-1610

Glenn-Wilson Springhouse  
Fawn Grove Road

The existence of such a structure--perhaps the only two-story log springhouse in Harford County--is astounding. It probably dates from the first quarter of the 19th century when Nathan Glenn lived on this farm made up of the tracts, "Wild Cat Den," "Johnsons Enlargement," and "Belle Grade." The springhouse was used until at least 1943, which may account for its preservation.

According to T. T. Wysong, author of The Rocks of Deer Creek, Mason & Dixon camped on J. L. Glenn's farm to await supplies of provisions from Philadelphia, by way of Joppa.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HA- 1610

MAGI # 131610 5305

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Glenn-Wilson Springhouse

**2 LOCATION**STREET & NUMBER (northeasterly side of Fawn Grove Rd. near  
Wildcat Branch)

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED  
☒ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☒ OTHER Springhouse

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Richard Heston

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

RD 1 Box 051 Twining Road

CITY, TOWN

Newtown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Pa. 18940

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE.  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air, MD

STATE

MD

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

HA-1610

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Located on the northeasterly side of Fawn Grove Road near Wildcat Branch, this two-story log springhouse faces southwest (south for descriptive purposes).

The structure, with a gable front roof with exposed eaves, has a door and window in the east side ground story and a door in the south end second story. The first story of the latter is covered by a more recent frame structure.

Measuring 9'10" by 12', the springhouse is constructed with v-notched logs that are 9" deep and 8" wide with stone and sand chinking.

The interior contains one room in each story. The ground story room has a beaded board wainscot.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The existence of such a structure--perhaps the only two-story log springhouse still remaining in Harford County--is remarkable. It may date from the 1st quarter of the 19th century when Nathan Glenn was left the farm on which he already resided by his father, William Glenn. The latter describes his <sup>own</sup> property thoroughly, indicates that it had the full complement of outbuildings. Presumably, then, Nathan Glenn built this springhouse for his own farm. The 1814 Tax List shows only a one-story wooden dwelling (16' X 14') on this property--no springhouse.

The farm was made up of parts of three tracts: "Johnsons Enlargement," "Wild Cat Den," and "Belle Grade," just south of the Mason-Dixon Line. In 1810, William Glenn purchased 163 acres of these three tracts for \$1635 from Jesse Jarrett and Bennet Jarrett.<sup>1</sup> Three years later, he paid Bennet(t) Jarrett \$80 for 10 additional acres of "Wild Cat Den."<sup>2</sup> At least a portion of this land was part of Abraham Jarrett's holdings of "Wild Cat Den" which were sold in a sheriff's sale in 1809 to Bennett Jarrett.<sup>3</sup> Abraham had acquired 610 acres of the aforementioned tract in 1775 from Jacob Bull, to whom the patent had been granted.<sup>4</sup>

The 1814 Tax List credits William Glenn with 123 acres of "Wild Cat Den," "Belle Grade," and "Johnsons Enlargement," a one-story wooden dwelling, three male slaves, and three female slaves, and 114 acres of two other tracts, valued at a total of \$7758--quite a substantial sum for that time. He left the portion of his estate on which the springhouse was located to his son, Nathan Glenn.

Valued at \$659.22, Nathan Glenn's inventory reveals that his estate was worth less than half of his father's, <sup>(1814)</sup> although his farm seems to have been self-sufficient with three horses, seven cows, a bull, seven sheep, seven head of hogs, 10 chickens, one turkey, and three geese, various farm utensils, and relatively sparse household furnishings: kitchen furniture, a cupboard and cupboard furniture, two tables, and a lot of chairs, two looking glasses, one bureau, one clock, carpeting, one lot of books, two picture frames, two bedsteads, two chests, and a chest and trunk. He left 80 acres of this eastern portion of his plantation to his wife, Elizabeth, and then to his son, John Lewis Glenn.

John Lewis Glenn in his will dated in 1903 left his property to his sister, Mary J. Amos and her son, Nathaniel.<sup>5</sup> The latter sold the 80-acre farm in 1908 to Frank Wilson,<sup>6</sup> and in 1943 his son, Howard Wilson sold 29 acres to James T. Smith, reserving "the absolute right to the use of a spring and springhouse" on the east side of the road.<sup>7</sup>

(continued)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land, will & equity records of Harford County  
 1798 tax assessment  
 1814 tax assessment

Wysong, T.T. The Rocks of Deer Creek, Balto., Press of Sherwood & Co., 1897

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Natalie Shivers /Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Historic District Commission

DATE

4/80

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

838-6000 X207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

MD 21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

## Glenn-Wilson Springhouse

## 8. Statement of Significance

Its use up until at least 1943 may account in part for the preservation of this unique springhouse. Located on the side of Fawn Grove Road, it is indiscernible among the trees and bushes. While probably protecting it from vandalism, this anonymity may make it vulnerable to demolition through neglect or ignorance--every step should be taken to preserve it.

Footnotes

1. Liber HDV, Folio 328
2. Liber HDX, Folio 303
3. Liber HDU, Folio 308
4. Liber ALI, Folio 391
5. Will Records HTB 13, Folio 143
6. Liber WSF 122, Folio 389
7. Liber GCB 280, Folio 173

## GLENN-WILSON SPRINGHOUSE

## Title Search

HA- 1610

1056/507	March 10, 1978	Grantor: Eugene Hayes Gardiner & wife, et al Grantee: Richard N. Heston & wife Barbara Louise Vansant Heston Acreage: 184.151 Acres 82.923 Acres
HDC 952/880	June 18, 1974	Grantor: Eugene Hayes Gardiner, Rep. of estate of Mary Ellen Gardiner, dec. Grantee: Eugene Hayes Gardiner, et al Acreage: (A) "Wildcat's Den" "Bellgrade" 98 Acres (B) 111-1/2 Acres - "Wild- cat Den", "Belle Grace" (sic), "Trin Agle", "Addition to Triangle", "McSwains Rejoicement", "Gordons Discovery" (C) "Beautiful Plains" 82.923 Acres
GRG 742/522	May 23, 1967	Grantor: Edna R. Smith, et al, exec. of Will of James T. Smith Grantee: Eugene Hayes Gardiner, et al Sum: \$121,000 Acreage: 3 Lots
GCB 280/173	October 15, 1943	Grantor: Howard F. Wilson & wife, Eleanor W. Grantee: James T. Smith Acreage: on east side of road from Fawn Grove Red Bridge on Deer Creek - 29 A, 98 p
WSF 122/389	March 16, 1908	Grantor: Nathan T. Amos, unmarried Grantee: Frank W. Wilson of York Co. Pa. Sum: \$2725 Acreage: part of "Johnson's Enlarge- ment", "Wild Cat Den", "Belle Grade" = 80 Acres
WSF 117/262	March 23, 1906	Grantor: Sarah E., Mary J., and Frank B. Amos, all unmarried Grantee: Nathan T. Amos Sum: \$650 Acreage: 80 Acres "Johnson's Enlarge- ment", "Wild Cat Den", "Belle Grade"

GLENN-WILSON SPRINGHOUSE  
 Title Search (Cont.)  
 HA- 1610

Will Records HTB 13/143	1905	Will of John Glenn
Will Records CWB 7/821	1862	Will of Nathan Glenn to wife, Elizabeth and son John Lewis Glenn: 80 Acres of eastern part of dwelling plantation = "Belle Grade", "Wild Cat Den", and "Johnson's Enlargement"
Will Records TSB 5/415	1825	Will of William Glenn, son Nathan: 173 Acres of "Johnson's Enlargement", "Wild Cat Den", "Belle Grade"
HD X/303	June 28, 1813	Grantor: Bennett Jarrett of Balto. Co Grantee: William Glenn, Esquire Sum: \$80 Acreage: 10 Acres of "Wild Cat Den"
HD V/328	March 31, 1810	Grantor: Jesse Jarrett of Harford Co. & Bennett Jarrett of Balto. Co. Grantee: William Glenn Sum: \$1635 Acreage: 163 A, 80 p of "Johnson's Enlargement", "Wild Cat Den", "Belle Grade"



Fawn Grove USGS  
Quadrangle Map

## Fawn Grove

HA-1610

0 H2-N2-N2

0 H2-N2-N2



Glenn-Wilson Springhouse HA-~~1876~~  
Fawn Grove Road  
nr. Fawn Grove, pa. 17321  
Natalie Shivers 10/79  
Southeast

1610



Glenn-Wilson Springhouse HA-~~7316~~  
Fawn Grove Road 1610  
nr. Fawn Grove, Pa. 17321  
Natalie Shivers 10/79  
Southwest